



AZANIA COMMANDO

PAC army
in action

Supplement to Azania Combat, the official organ of the Azanian People's Liberation Army, the PAC military wing.

EDITORIAL

PAC army launches Azania Commando

THE Pretoria regime, with the connivance of the South African white liberal Press, is sparing no effort in trying to contain, if not suppress, information about intensified attacks on racist security forces being carried out by the Azanian People's Liberation Army, the PAC military wing.

In launching *Azania Commando*, an irregular supplement to *Azania Combat*, we are not changing our policy of refusing to claim credit for armed attacks carried out by or associated with APLA combatants now operating in their large numbers throughout South Africa.

We are simply trying to put an end to the feast by "credit thieves" who are currently busy getting themselves international recognition, acclaim and respect for combat activities not carried out by their men but by others.

It must be noted that we appreciate it when groups other than the PAC launch attacks against Pretoria because that weakens the enemy and brings us closer to the goal of liberation. Those responsible should rightly be credited and commanded. We, too, deserve credit where it is due.

We wish to go on record as reaffirming our fine tradition of not claiming responsibility for our activities inside South Africa. There is no need of claiming responsibility when we know we are responsible and the Azanian people know we are. All we want is an objective representation of facts about the situation in South Africa.

Previously, Pretoria would put blame for guerrilla attacks on what it called "terrorists" or mention by name the organisation it thought was responsible. Such an organisation has rarely been the PAC and its army.

With the latest type of guerrilla attacks, which are

clearly and undeniably different from previous ones, Pretoria points fingers at what it calls "armed men" or "hit-squads" while the liberal white Press refers to those responsible as "nationalist guerrillas" or "black militants".

All of them, Pretoria and the liberals, are at pains to avoid simply saying "PAC guerrillas".

However, we do not mind because we do not believe war can be won in the editorial columns. If it could, why after 75 years "of struggle" and relatively favourable publicity, Azania is still South Africa and far from liberation?

Obviously, we do want publicity for what we do, but we cannot expect the enemy to publicise us. Nor do we expect the liberals to place an expensive "Urban the PAC" advertisement in their newspapers.

Let us not be mistaken for declaring war on the liberal papers. We are not fighting the white South African Press; we are fighting the soldiers and police who are defending and maintaining settler-colonial rule and apartheid in South Africa.

Time is soon coming when it will no longer be possible for the white liberal Press to avoid printing the phrase "PAC guerrillas".

In the meantime, we will continue delivering armed blows on the racist security forces while occasionally highlighting results in the editorial columns of *Azania News*, *Azania Combat* and *Azania Commando*.

'PAC men' facing 24 terror charges

By Azania Commando
Correspondent

PRETORIA - A young Bophuthatswana priest is among seven alleged members of the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania facing charges of involvement in PAC military activities inside South Africa. The seven appeared at a magistrates court here recently.

Reverend Daniel Nkopodi (27), Cde Enoch Zulu (52), Cde Siyabulela Gcanga (26), Cde Vincent Mathunjwa (29), Cde Paul Mohotto (29), Cde Ahmed Cassiem and Cde Yusuf Patel (no ages given) are facing 24 counts of terrorism and of attempted murder.

The seven, who are also charged with being members of a banned organisation (the PAC) and defeating the ends of justice, were remanded for trial on March 30 by Mr D.J. Pieterse, who did not ask them to plead.

According to a 90-page indictment against them, Cde Zulu, alleged to be the second-in-command in the Azanian People's Liberation Army, had grabbed a handgrenade when he was arrested on the night of April 10 or 11 last year.

The State is alleging that Cde Zulu and three others in the group had received military training under the PAC in several countries, including Yugoslavia, Egypt and Tanzania.

The four and an undisclosed number of other alleged PAC members and supporters are said to have entered South Africa carrying semi-automatic rifles and handgrenades for alleged terror activities of the PAC.

It is alleged that Cde Zulu and others, including Cde Cassiem and Cde Patel, made contacts with *Qibla*, a militant Moslem organisation, in connection with supply of weapons to the Moslem community to fight along with the PAC against the regime.

Rev. Nkopodi, an AME priest, is alleged to have acted as a courier and had smuggled arms, ammunition and cash to be used by "trained PAC members inside South Africa in their sabotage activities against the State".

Some of the accused, including Cde Patel and Cde Cassiem, had allegedly met leaders of the PAC, among them the PAC Administrative Secretary, Cde Joe Mkwanazi.

Arms reach more African people, SA police admit

Commando Reporter

SOWETO - As the Azanian People's Liberation Army continues carrying out the PAC order to arm and train the African people, South Africa police have announced what they call "an alarming increase of firearms" in the African townships.

Figures released recently by Brigadier James Beeslaar, head of the Soweto CID, however, draw no line between ordinary criminal and politically-motivated incidents in which firearms have been used. The incidents increased by almost 100 per cent last year.

Brig. Beeslaar said more and more firearms were becoming easily available to the people in the African townships, particularly Soweto.

The Pan Africanist Congress of Azania, through its armed wing APLA, has made it clear that its fighters on the ground do not arm a person before they are convinced that that person is politically aware of the objectives for which arms are being used.

"An armed but politically bankrupt person is very dangerous to the cause" — such is the PAC position on the subject.

"We do not produce apolitical soldiers, but political fighters, who know exactly why we have taken up arms and who know the situations under which we use those arms. But more importantly, we produce fighters who know who is the enemy."

DEFENCE SECRETARY SPEAKS

PAC marks Sharpeville with a war cry to arms

By Commando Editor
Willie Mazambane

THE Pan Africanist Congress of Azania this year marks the anniversary of its 1960 Decisive Positive Action Campaign against the Pass Laws with a war cry that Azanians must continue to be armed and train internally to enable them liberate themselves.

On March 21 1960, the PAC, and it alone, took a decisive political step in the form of initiating and leading a peaceful demonstration against the hated pass laws. Pretoria's response was brutal and swift.

About 80 Africans collapsed in Sharpeville in a hail of bullets fired by racist security forces, a state of emergency was declared and the PAC and the other liberation movement were banned. The PAC was then only 11 months old and the other organisation 48 years old.

Today in 1987, the PAC is still as young and dynamic as ever and determined not to get too old before beloved Azania is liberated.

Last year, it began an ambitious massive programme, the biggest, most extensive and most efficient such scheme in the annals of the liberation struggle in South Africa, to arm and internally train the African masses to increase their fighting capacity.

Asked how far this programme has gone, the PAC Secretary for Defence, Cde Victor "Subs" Phama, said it had so far gone smoothly and according to plan.

"Is there anyone who still cannot see what really is happening in settler-colonial South Africa today?"

Cde Phama told *Azania Commando*: "We are succeeding in our armed activities and we have not only armed and trained scores of ordinary African masses inside the country, but have enabled them to engage the enemy.

"We have not only given skill and equipment to the down-trodden African masses, but have clearly defined the enemy and specified the main targets of the liberation movement.

"But, even more importantly, we are giving clear and unequivocal orders, directives and assignments to well-organised military units and political sub-groups," said the defence secretary.

"It is now war, a real people's war against Pretoria. We are not just among the people, but are with them and they are with us. In a word, we are together, and together we march ahead."

Cde Phama's brief summary of the progress made by the gallant APLA combatants on the ground since the "Arm the People" programme began in earnest sometime last year reaffirms previous PAC declarations that the organisation will not engage in any activity if that activity does not help increase the fighting capacity of the African masses.

On March 21 1960, the African masses were mercilessly mowed down by racist para-military police who obviously and naturally did not expect return-fire. This racist brutality almost similarly repeated itself on June 16 1976 and again and again in the few following years.

Even in the early 1980s, there were still situations in which the African masses would be massacred without fighting back or offering any effective resistance.

In 1986, there were fewer occasions where the racist security forces would open fire and get no return-fire. The reason here was basically that the "arm the people" programme had begun.

Now is 1987, the year when it is no longer safe for enemy forces to patrol the streets of the townships in small units. It is no longer a matter of the racist security forces having to necessarily shoot first before being fired at in return.

The masses are gaining the initiative, gradually moving away from the self-defence position to a defensive-offensive one. They are beginning to be able to fight at a time and on a terrain determined by no one but them.

As the late PAC chairman, Cde John Nyati Pokela, put it: "We are doing our own thing, at our own time and at our own pace. When the right time comes, we will not go to the big capital cities of the world to tell them what we are doing; they will come to us to find out."

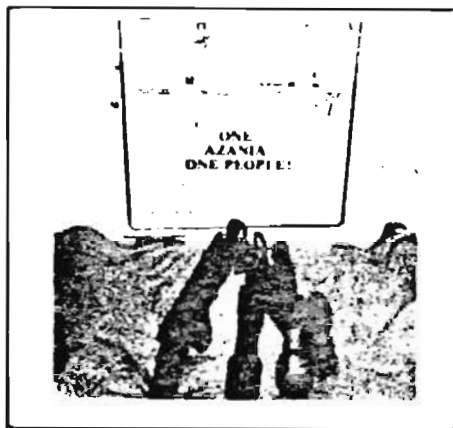
Sons and Daughters of the Soil who fell down at Sharpeville, Langa and other parts of occupied Azania in March 1960, this year we remember you differently; we remember you in a much more militant manner; we remember you with a war cry to arms and we remember you with a victory pledge. We will not fail you.

GUERRILLA WAR HOTS UP

11 SADF soldiers killed in attacks by PAC guerillas

A DIFFERENT type of guerilla warfare has in recent weeks emerged in South Africa, focussing attacks directly on security forces of the regime. Pretoria and the white liberal Press have sought to generalise responsibility for such attacks, attributing them to what they call "gunmen" or "black militants" or "unknown persons". Azania Commando, however, knows that they know who is really responsible for these attacks.

Having deliberately waited just to see if the regime and the liberal media might at least for once tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, but to no avail, Azania Commando has decided to tell the story, which is based on an exclusive interview with one of the fighters who have taken part in the attacks, especially those in Alexandra near Johannesburg. The story is being told so that similar attacks in future, and there will be many more, are placed in their correct perspective.



By Azania Commando
Operations Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — As the PAC army intensifies real guerilla war deep inside South Africa, 11 SADF soldiers and three municipal police are now known to have been killed in Alexandra township alone in recent attacks by the Azanian freedom fighters, using mainly the deadly *Scorpion* machineguns.

Cde Moses "MM" Mohapi, one of several APLA field commanders directing those attacks by people-turned-guerillas, has spoken of a massive internal training and arming programme for the African masses which was unfolding on an unprecedented scale in the history of the 26-year old Azanian armed struggle.

In a recent advertisement in the pro-apartheid newspaper, *The Citizen*, the number of recent guerilla attacks in Alexandra is given and the *Scorpion* mentioned, but those responsible are not named and the number

of enemy casualties is grossly down-played.

In the paper, it is said: "Two army members were wounded in recent attacks".

The place, time and exact circumstances of these attacks are not disclosed, although it is mentioned that none of those responsible has been arrested.

But it is now known that one of the attacks on the army men refers to "Operation Alex II" at Alexandra's First Avenue on the rainy evening of December 31 when two APLA guerrillas, armed with *Scorpions*, stormed an SADF tent, killing all five occupants who were having drinks at the time.

"When their bodies were found in the early morning of the following day, they were very cold," says Cde Mohapi. "I agree, it was not a pleasant New Year present to Pretoria."

Those killed in that attack included an SADF corporal whom *The Citizen* reported as having been "shot in the back", giving no details about his fate. The paper, however, did mention that Ballistic tests had shown that *Scorpion* had been used in the attack.

Then comes the December 15 attack in which Lance Corporal Gary Orwin was reported as having been "critically wounded". This attack refers to "Operation Alex I".

Says Cde Mohapi: "As far as we know, Lance Corporal Orwin is dead, killed in that attack. Let the boers produce a living Orwin, and if they do, we will readily admit that we failed to give him a full dose of the *Scorpion*."

The attack, in fact, took place at Alexandra's 16 Avenue, commonly known as "Bazooka Street", and the time was 4 p.m. The late Lance Corporal Orwin was not manning a roadblock as was reported in *The Citizen*.

He was in an SADF truck parked where there was no roadblock when the attack by a lone APLA guerrilla using a *Scorpion*, had taken place.

The Citizen's version of another attack is: "Shots were fired from a *Scorpion* at a municipal policeman on Sunday afternoon in the third such attack in five weeks. He was not injured."

The attack, according to field commander "MM", referred to a January 25 APLA guerrilla operation against Peri-urban (administration) police in which three were killed and two escaped.

The five municipal policemen came under attack while they were guarding a police house at 4th Avenue in the Alexandra township. This again was a one-man guerrilla unit's work and the weapon used was what the boers call "*Skeperjoen*" (Afrikaans word for *Scorpion*).

One of the three previous similar attacks referred to in *The Citizen* was carried out by guerrilla recruits armed with *Scorpions* and home-made bombs. They ambushed two Peri-urban vans while the municipal police were changing duties, but the recruits could not say how many enemy casualties were there, if any.

Then comes the killing of a shopkeeper, Mr George Ioannou, at Wynberg near Alexandra township during the Christmas weekend.

"Oh yes, the Wynberg incident at 30th Avenue just next to the (Alexandra) location," says Cde Mohapi. "I was there myself and this, if I may explain, was not an operation as such. We had gone to that shop to buy a few items and this Greek shopkeeper starts producing a 34-mm pistol . . . His son was present but nothing happened to the boy."

Now comes Wednesday February 4, "the day of yet one of our best operations in Alexandra to date".

It was at 11th Avenue when an SADF truck came under an APLA guerrilla attack, in which five enemy soldiers were killed and two others escaped.

"This was classical because the poor racist fellows did not know what had hit them, except for the two who ran for their lives. We thought of a hot-pursue, as the boers themselves usually do, but decided against it," says Cde Mohapi.

(All the attacks referred to, except the February 4 one, are being highlighted here in this article because Pretoria itself, through The Citizen, has chosen to report them. The reason here is to show how the regime can twist facts where it knows or suspects the PAC is involved).

The selection of security forces — the South African Defence Force and the South African Police (SAP) personnel — is significant because it makes the Alexandra attacks different from those carried out in recent years by the military wing of the other liberation movement.

The Alexandra attacks concretise late PAC chairman Cde John Nyati Pokela's correct teaching that "the struggle must be fought at the level of mortals", involving direct attacks on the racist security force personnel.

They are also a practical implementation of the 1986 order to the Azanian People's Liberation Army by the PAC Chairman and APLA Commander-in-Chief, Cde Johnson Mlambo, that APLA combatants must strike the MAIN blow at enemy soldiers and police.

"We have been ordered to strike hardest at the security forces and we are doing just that. But, I must frankly say, it is extremely difficult for the internally-trained people to restrict attacks to soldiers and police because of their (the masses) daily experience with Pretoria's brutality against African men, women and children," says the field commander.

"However, an order has been given and must be implemented. That is army discipline and this is what we teach the masses," he added.

Asked how internal training was conducted, he said this was the roughest and most risky part of the whole military operational activity.

"A guerrilla-to-be must first undergo an intensive political crash-course, lasting up to at least two weeks. This course is necessary because an armed but politically bankrupt person is very dangerous, dangerous even to the very people who have armed that person.

"When we have convinced ourselves that the recruit is politically okay and, therefore, safe to be given a weapon, we give him an unloaded gun and show him how to operate it, show him the tricky aspects of the gun and show him how to take good care of it.

"But we do not have target shooting practices, that is to say, the normal shooting practices. Perhaps our colleagues in the remote areas have that sort of thing. With us, the recruit practices shooting in the actual field of battle.

"It is really rough as I have earlier stated. But it is also fun when the game is being mastered," says the field commander.

Cde Mohapi and other APLA field commanders attach great importance to safe preservation of arms, and MM goes further to state unreservedly that "arms are very important, perhaps even more important than me, because I can die anytime, but the struggle must go on".

What type of warfare are you fighting?

"Call it guerilla warfare, if you wish. We call it irregular warfare because there is no timetable for attacks. When I give out arms, at whatever time, I expect a good operation, because we only attack when we are absolutely sure of victory."

Adds Cde Mohapi: "We know we can't stand face to face with the SADF, that is to say, conventionally. We, therefore, have to operate in small units, each specialising in specific type of attacks."

Then there is also the problem of knowing how many enemy forces have been killed in an attack.

"Relatively experienced guerillas do the job much more easier than recruits, some of whom won't successfully carry out an attack and dash away without knowing the number of enemy casualties. Some of the recruits don't even know if they have killed or wounded any enemy soldier or police," says Cde Mohapi.

"But we continue training them how to do these things and are confident that as they gain experience they will do the job perfectly. We assure them that we, too, started like them and that now we attack and delay our retreat by a few seconds for purposes of counting."

Cde Mohapi, who frankly admits that he is not a good politician, says: "I can at least see it now; I can see the organisation taking over to form the first Azanian Government. The mist is beginning to clear now."

He sees 1987, which has been declared by the PAC leadership as the *Year of Arming the People*, as what he calls "the year of things, the year when Mr and Mrs Racist will be in for the highest jump".

Says the field commander: "We are beginning to turn 'Zim-Zim' into reality."

Asked what is 'Zim-Zim', he says the other term for it is "Zim II", that is, Zimbabwe Number Two or Azania, so to speak.

"What it all means is that we are out to turn South Africa into Azania in the same way as Rhodesia was turned into Zimbabwe," says Cde Mohapi.



**“The APLA boys are
doing their job...”**



*“... And we will stop at nothing falling short of the return
of Azania to its rightful owners, we the Azanians” — PAC
Secretary for Defence Sabelo Phama.*